

the Circine facial disc in the present bird, which is I believe new, and belongs to *Buteo* proper and not to *Circus*.

Buteo plumipes, mihi.—Throughout of a uniform dusky brown, as in the moor buzzard; region of the lores only albescent; cere and legs greenish yellow; bill blue, with black tips and talons; tail very vaguely rayed with a paler shade of colour and wings internally. Of slender make, and with long and acute talons, whereas the white head is of very robust make, and has less acute but stronger talons. This is in make as in colours, a *Circus*; that, a buzzard proper or an eagle. In *plumipes* the tarse is scutellate before and behind, reticulate to the sides and at base, and two-thirds of the acropodia likewise are reticulate. The cere is large in both, and in both the nares are longitudinally cleft and irregularly ovoid in form. The one passes towards *Buteo* from *Circus*, the other towards *Aquila* from *Buteo*. Length (fœm.), $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bill, $1\frac{1}{4}$; tail, 9; tarse, 3; central toe and nail, 2; hind, $1\frac{1}{4}$. Procured in the central hilly region. Manners not noted.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

October 2nd, 1843.—George Newport, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Captain Parry exhibited a box of Coleopterous insects from Colombia, including *Megasoma Elephas*, a curious genus allied to *Megalopus*, and another apparently allied to *Ancistrosoma*.

Mr. Westwood exhibited a gynandromorphous specimen of *Endromis versicolor* from the collection of Dr. Becker, the antennæ and wings on the left-hand side being masculine, and those of the right side being female.

The Rev. F. W. Hope exhibited a specimen of the larva of *Acilius* voided by a boy at Tunbridge Wells.

The following memoirs were read:—

“Description of new species of exotic *Coleoptera*.” By the Rev. F. W. Hope, F.R.S.

Lucanus Parryi, Hope. *Niger nitidus*, mandibulis longitudine capite æqualibus, apicibus acutis supra dentatis; elytris glabris; tibiis anticis externè serratis, posticis unispinosis. Long. corp. lin. $16\frac{1}{2}$; lat. lin. $5\frac{1}{4}$. Affinis L. nepalensi, Hope.—Hab. in Agro Nepalensi. Mus. Parry.

Lucanus Vitulus, Dejean (ined.) ♀. *Niger nitidus glaber*, mandibulis brevibus acutis; thorace marginato, angulis anticis haud productis, posticis parùm rotundatis; tibiis anticis externè denticulatis, posticis 4 in medio unispinosis. Long. corp. lin. 16; lat. lin. 6.—Hab. in Javâ. Mus. Buquet.

Lucanus (Hexarthrius) Buquetii, Hope. *Niger*, mandibulis exsertis arcuatis, apicibus 2-furcatis, introrsum crenatis unidentatis dentateque majori ferè basali; capite thoraceque scabriusculis; tibiis intermediis 1-spinosis, posticis 2 inermibus. Long. corp. lin. 35; lat. lin. 9.—Hab. in Javâ. Mus. Buquet.

Pholiodotus Reichei, Hope, ♀. *Niger, capite thoraceque rugosis hoc tuberculato, mandibulis apice acutis; thoracis lateribus serratis, angulis posticis acutis; elytris ferè glabris obscuris, lineâ elevatâ obliquâ erodâ, e humeris ad medium disci extensâ; pedibus simplicibus.* Long. corp. lin. 15; lat. lin. 5.—Hab. in Colombiâ. Mus. Reiche.

Callirhipis Laportei, Hope. *Rubro-testaceus seu fulvus; antennis nigris, articulo basali antrorsum flavescente; thorace lineis tribus nigris; elytris maculis tribus basalibus apicibusque nigris; pedibus nigris; femoribus fulvis.* Long. corp. lin. $6\frac{1}{4}$; lat. lin. $1\frac{1}{2}$.—Hab. apud Coban. Mus. Hope.

Saperda ocularis, Hope. *Aurantia, antennis nigro-griseis pubescentibus, capite antrorsum atro, oculis albo cinctis; thorace posticè nigro, maculis 5 albis; elytris octo maculis albis atro-cingulatis ornatis; pedibus atro-griseis.* Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{4}$; lat. lin. $1\frac{1}{4}$.—Hab. in Amer. Merid. Mus. Hope.

“Description of a new exotic genus of Longicorn Beetles, remarkable for the dilatation of the anterior femora.” By J. O. Westwood, F.L.S.

EUPROMERA, Westw. *Corpus breve, crassum, subdepressum. Caput breve, verticale, pronoto parùm angustius. Antennæ ferè corporis longitudine, 11-articulatæ, subfiliformes; prothorax subquadratus, dorso lateribusque subtuberculatis, pone medium subconstrictus; elytra lateribus parallelis, apice inermia. Femora antica maxima inflata, tibiæ anticæ curvatæ, tibiæ 4 posticæ in medio haud scopiferæ.*

Eupromera Spryana, Westw. *Griseo-villosa fusco luteoque parùm variegata, apicibus articulorum antennarum fusco-cinctis, elytris fusco tuberculatis.* Long. corp. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$.—Hab. in Brasiliâ. In Mus. Hope and Westwood.

“Account of the Fire-flies observed at the Baths of Lucca.” By G. Woolmer, Esq.

These insects, which are termed *Luccioli* by the natives, evidently from their bearing light, belong to the same family (*Lampyridæ*) as the English fire-fly; but the females are winged, and in the spring and early part of the summer are seen in all directions on the wing, emitting a phosphoric kind of light at intervals; thus producing a most beautiful effect where they abound in company with the glow-worm. Previous to a storm they are more than usually active, and their light much more brilliant. In the day-time they rest on the bushes in a state almost of torpor. Their flight is very regular, the light appearing and disappearing at short distances. They entirely disappear shortly after the hay is gathered in. It is considered that it is the female which emits the light, thus attracting the male. The lower (posterior) part of the body, which emits the light, is of a sulphur colour, and is observed to shine for a short time even after death. When alive, any irritation offered to the part causes the insect to emit its light.

“Descriptions of various exotic *Crustacea*, *Coleoptera* and *Homo-*
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ptera." (Annals of Natural History, vol. xii. p. 342.) By Adam White, Esq.; by whom it was stated, that a nest of *Pelopæus* provisioned with spiders had recently been presented to the British Museum from Sierra Leone by Mr. Whitfield.

November 6th.—The President in the Chair.

Mr. F. Bond exhibited two distinct species of *Geophilus*, which he had ascertained to possess luminous powers. Also a species of *Ornithomyia* (*O. viridis*?) which he had found to be parasitic both on bats and swallows.

Mr. W. F. Evans exhibited a specimen of the common Hornet, which he had confined in a small box, in which, some time subsequently, were found several specimens of the Dipterous genus *Molobrus*, which Mr. J. F. Stephens suggested had been hatched from eggs deposited upon the hornet after death and whilst still damp. He also exhibited the larva and pupa of a Lepidopterous insect (most probably the *Diatraea sacchari*, Guilding) which he had found in sugar-canes brought from Madeira. Also specimens of *Trechus fulvus* captured during flight after dark by candle-light.

Mr. Yarrell exhibited a specimen of *Lemargus imbricatus* which had been found parasitic upon the short sun-fish. Also specimens of *Cecrops Latreillei* from both the sun-fish and tunny.

A paper by G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., containing descriptions of some new species of *Curculionidæ* from the Philippine Islands, was read.

Mr. Walton brought under the notice of the Meeting the following case, in which some fixed rule of nomenclature seemed necessary. It appears that the *Curculio Alliarie* of Linnæus belongs to the modern genus *Magdalis*. A very careful description of a species of the modern genus *Rhynchites* has however been published by Paykull, who applied the specific name of *Alliarie* to it, expressing at the same time his doubts whether it were really the *Curculio Alliarie* of Linnæus. Paykull's specific name has subsequently been altered by Stephens and Schönherr, as they considered, that as it was not the species described by Linnæus under the name of *Alliarie*, it was improper to give the Linnæan name to it. After considerable discussion among the members present, it appeared to be the general opinion, that as Paykull had first given a good description of *Rhynchites Alliarie*, it was proper to retain his specific name, citing *his* name, however, and not that of Linnæus, more especially as the Linnæan species belongs to a distinct modern genus, so that no confusion could arise from the employment of the same name in both genera.

December 4th.—The President in the Chair.

Mr. Westwood exhibited a drawing of a new genus of Goliath Beetles, received by Mr. Melly from Signor Passerini (*Amaurodes Passerini*). Also a box of Beetles from the Ashantee district, including a new genus of Goliath Beetles (*Asthenorhina Turneri*), *Paussus microcephalus*, and other rare and new species from the collection of Mr. Turner.

The Rev. F. W. Hope exhibited a series of drawings of the transformations of various Indian *Lepidoptera*, made by Mr. Ezra Downes.

The following memoirs were read:—

“On the Existence of Thoracic Branchiæ in the Imago state of the Neuropterous genus *Pteronarcys*.” By George Newport, Esq., President E.S. (*Annals of Natural History*, vol. xiii. p. 21). In reference to this memoir Mr. Westwood stated, that he had detected some thoracic appendages in the genera *Ptychopteryx* and *Heliophilus*, described and figured in his ‘Introduction to the Modern Classification of Insects,’ vol. ii. fig. 126, 7. p. 526. note †, and p. 557, which he considered to be analogous to the branchiæ discovered by Mr. Newport in *Pteronarcys*. The latter gentleman however objected to this analogy, as the organs in question existed simultaneously with the true spiracles. Mr. E. Doubleday, in reference to a suggestion made by Mr. Newport, stated that he had always noticed that the North American species of *Chauliodes* are on the wing in rainy evenings.

“On the proceedings of a species of *Trombidium* which infested the Plane-trees in the Regent’s Park during the past summer.” By George Wilson, Esq., M.R.C.S. Communicated with additional notes by A. White, Esq.

At the beginning of September Mr. Wilson’s attention was directed to the trees, several of which had the trunks and branches entirely or partially covered with a very delicate web, upon which myriads of a small Arachnidous insect were running to and fro, extending their webs rapidly along the branches. The web was so fine as to appear like a thin compact layer of varnish upon the stems of the trees; and from the vast numbers of the insects, the grey web appeared dusted with a reddish powder, the insects being of a light orange colour inclining to brown. From the web so completely enveloping the tree and obstructing the vital influence of the atmosphere, the leaves became withered and fell. This was especially the case with the plane-trees, the elms and horse-chestnuts being free from them. The weather for several days previously and subsequently was fine and sultry, but in the course of a few days a heavy fall of rain, accompanied by a thunder-storm, put a stop to the injury by destroying the insects. On placing a portion of the web with its inhabitants in a bottle, Mr. Wilson observed that in about an hour a beautiful transparent cylinder had been spun within the bottle from the base of the top, impinging against the side of the bottle at about half its height; and it was remarkable that there was not a single thread stretched across the inside of the cylinder, nor was a single insect enclosed within it. Having completed their first cylinder, they threw a second around it more slender than the former, leaving only a small interval between them.

Mr. White considered the species to be the *Trombidium tiliarium*, Herm., or an allied species, and distinct from the *Acarus telarum*, Linn., and *Trombidium socium*, the habits of which, as described by Hermann, were mentioned by Mr. White.

Mr. Walton informed the Meeting that a specimen of the true

Curculio Bacchus, Linn., but not of Marsham, had been captured on the 20th of September last on a young oak-tree at Birchwood, Kent, by Mr. B. Standish; Mr. J. F. Stephens however stated that he had taken both *R. Bacchus* and *auratus* from the same tree at Crayford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF AFRICAN MONKEY.

Black-cheeked Ascagne, *Cercopithecus melanogenys*, n. s.

Black, olive speckled; ears, middle of the back and end of tail reddish; sides and outer side of the limbs grayish; hands and feet, frontal band, and lower part of the cheeks black; temples yellowish, broad cordate spot on the nose white; chin, chest and beneath ashy white.

Inhab. Africa. British Museum.

This species is at once known from the *Cercopithecus Petaurista*, with which it appears to have been confounded, by the distribution of the colour on the cheeks: in this species they are black below and yellowish above, while in that they are black above and yellow beneath, like the throat and chest, and in the spot of the nose, which is ovate and elongate in *C. Petaurista*, and broad and cordate in the one now described, and it also differs in the general colouring of the fur.

The species of this genus may be thus divided:—

- a. Face flesh-coloured, whiskers white: *C. Cynosurus*.
- b. Face black, whiskers white. * Frontal band none: *C. Sabaeus*.
** Frontal band distinct, not bearded: *C. pygerythrus*, *C. Engythithia* and *C. ruber*. *** Frontal band distinct, chin bearded: *C. Diana*.
- c. Face black, whiskers annulated: *C. albogularis*, *C. Mona*, *C. Campbellii*?, *C. leucocampyx*, *C. labiatus*, *C. Tenminckii*, *C. Burnettii*, *C. Pogonias*.
- d. Nose reddish: *C. erythrotis*.
- e. Nose blue, white beneath: *C. Cephus*.
- f. Nose white: *C. nictitans*, *C. Petaurista*, and *C. melanogenys*.

J. E. GRAY.

MEXICAN FOSSILS.

In a letter to Prof. Bronn, M. Claussen states that he has again found in Brazil a great many fossil bones, and among them the head of a large tiger related to *Felis megalanthereon* (*Ursus cultridens*), but it is much larger; the upper canine teeth are nearly 10 inches long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ broad. The French Institute has purchased it for 4000 francs. The remainder of the collection, except the duplicates, has been disposed of to the British Museum. He promises subsequently to communicate some remarks on the occurrence of these fossil bones, and especially on that of the human remains, which are found among the bones of various extinct animals. He has discovered two kinds of monkeys, which approximate to the genera *Mycetes* and *Cebus*. A